

**NSC BRIEFING**

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8  
November 1956

**POSSIBLE FUTURE SOVIET MOVES IN MIDDLE EAST**

- I. USSR may be content with present uneasy cease-fire in Egypt.
  - A. Many reports say Soviet stock "soaring" in Arab-Asian world for having stopped war.
  - B. USSR credited with saving Nass and frustrating Israeli-French-British.
- II. On other hand USSR may hope cease-fire in Egypt will come unstuck and permit extensive Soviet trouble-making (short of general war). USSR might:
  - A. Promise Egypt and perhaps other Arab States the services of hundreds of thousands of "volunteers" now allegedly being recruited Moscow, Peiping, etc.
  - B. Demand transit or overflight privileges of Greece, Turkey, Iran and Iraq for aircraft and "volunteers", including warship passage through Turkish Straits.
  - C. Urge and covertly assist Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Syria and Lebanon to seize oil industries and pipelines.
  - D. To Egypt--Offer to deliver guns, military equipment and supplies in unlimited quantities and free.
    1. Send Soviet warships into Mediterranean--perhaps on "naval visit."
    2. Declare right to deliver military goods to Egypt and send Soviet merchant ships to any open Arab

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3. Mount clandestine submarine attacks against Anglo-French ships.
4. Guarantee Nasr regime politically and financially and urge him to fight to bitter end.
- E. In Syria--Announce full support for any Syrian regime aiding Egypt and resisting British and Israeli aggression and intrigue.
  1. Stage clandestine coup putting in power pro-Soviet regime headed by Khalid Bakdash, tough and able Moscow-trained Communist leader.
  2. Support regime by subversion of substantial elements Syrian Army loyal to pro-Egyptian Col. Sarraj, most dynamic man in Syrian Army.
  3. Immediately send paratroop brigade to occupy air fields and assist <sup>SYRIAN</sup> Sarraj army.
  4. Airlift as soon as practical technicians, advisers, stiffening "volunteers," etc.
  5. Eventually launch diversionary attack on Israel.
- F. To Jordan--Offer free arms aid, advisers, technicians and training for Jordanian forces.
  1. Encourage Jordanians to cooperate with Egyptian command.
  2. Maintain military threat-in-being on Israeli border.
  3. Insist that resettlement inside Israel of Arab refugees now in Jordan be prerequisite of any settlement of Arab-Israeli fighting.

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- G. To Saudi Arabia--Offer to substitute for US as trainer and provider of equipment for Saudi forces (note: there still is no Dhahran base agreement with US).**
  - 1. Maintain military threat-in-being on Israeli border.**
  - 2. Offer to provide clandestine support for Saudi attack on British in Buraimi, Aden, or elsewhere.**
- H. In Iran and Iraq--Clandestinely encourage anti-British riots and if possible build up strength for eventual anti-regime rebellions.**

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